

Town of Amherst – Task Force Concerning the Proposed Kinder Morgan / Tennessee Gas Pipeline

Resolved that the Town of Amherst should create an Amherst Pipeline Task Force consisting of residents and employees of Amherst for the purposes of:

- Performing research and collecting accurate data,
- Analyzing and identifying response options for Amherst,
- Understanding the process and timeline for the proposed pipeline,
- Understanding the legal framework behind the proposed pipeline, and the key points where Amherst might intervene, be heard, and have material impact,
- Understanding the plans for the construction of the proposed pipeline
- Understanding how the safety of town residents will be assured during construction and operation of the proposed pipeline
- Coordinating outreach to Amherst's State and Federal representatives,
- Coordinating outreach to the Office of the Governor of New Hampshire,
- Identifying the potential environmental impact of the pipeline
 - On Conservation lands
 - On the Souhegan River
 - On Amherst as a small, semi-rural town
- Identifying the potential economic impact of the pipeline
 - On homeowners (both in the path of the pipeline and abutters)
 - On the Town itself (e.g. tax impact, enabling industry, etc.)
- Other Areas that may develop

Non-residents of Amherst should be sought out and engaged as appropriate by the Task Force, but membership will be restricted to Amherst residents and personnel.

For reference, the town of Hollis formed a task force such as this, with sub-groups focused on:

- Rural Character
- Ecological / Environmental
- Economic
- Transportation / Safety

While it is not immediately clear that these are the most appropriate sub-groups for Amherst, they may serve as a starting point for discussion among members of the Amherst Pipeline Task Force. Once the Task force is formed, its first order of business should be to define the appropriate sub-groups and assign members as appropriate.

The Amherst Pipeline Task Force should also establish liaisons with the Amherst Conservation Committee and the Amherst Planning Board, Town Departments as required, in addition to the Board of Selectmen.

Email Town Administrator Jim O'Mara (jomara@amherstnh.org) if you are interested in being a part of this **working** task force. Please include your area of expertise or the profession you plan to bring to this group.